

BOERS ARE ACTIVE

A Raiding Party Destroyed the Telegraph Wires.

AFTER GENERAL METHUEN.

They are Trying to Catch British Soldiers in a Trap Instead of Fighting More Open Battles.

London, Dec. 9.—The cutting of Gen. Methuen's line of communication behind him shows that the Boers are not at all frightened by the battles of the past week, but were merely up to their old time tactics of getting in the rear of the British.

Naturally, there is much anxiety in London, especially as there are many rumors of big fighting. The officials of the war office remained on duty until a late hour and finally at 2 o'clock yesterday morning they received and made public a welcome dispatch stating that Gen. Methuen had opened up communication again.

It was only a daring raiding party of Boers who cut around his rear and destroyed the telegraph wires and the railway for some miles. As soon as his telegraph instruments failed to work, Gen. Methuen knew he was being cut off and a battery of field artillery and a battalion of infantry were sent flying back while the infantry and cavalry dashed up from the river.

The Boers numbered 100 and being too wary to be caught between two fires rode off after a small skirmish, in which the British loss was decidedly greater than their own.

The daring of the Boers causes more alarm than this mere raid. It shows they are trying to catch Methuen in a trap instead of fighting more open battles with him.

This style of warfare is the Boers' strong point. Gen. Methuen's position is no easy one and he will have his hands full with his wary antagonists. He is only twenty-four miles from Kimberley, but the beleaguered town is by no means relieved yet.

The Boers have decidedly checked the British advance and Methuen still waits at Modder river for reinforcements. These are being rushed to him.

Meantime the Boers are riding all around his flanks and watching every opportunity to cut off detachments and prevent both men and supplies from reaching him.

A Boer telegram from Berlin reports that Commandant Primrose's force near Jacobsdal is now between the Modder river and Belt river. It is this force that fixes the check on Methuen's advance.

Gen. Cronje is in the front of Methuen with his rear resting on Spytensfontein. The hills are fortified and all his flanks are occupied by the Boers with Delarey's commando further south in Methuen's rear near Graspan.

Arrived Safely.

Manila, Dec. 9.—There was considerable relief in Manila when the news was received yesterday that General Young's small force had arrived safely at Vigan, province of South Ilocos, Dec. 4. Anxiety has been felt for General Young and the garrison at Vigan since it was known that General Tino had a large aggressive body of insurgents in the vicinity. General Tino made a stand in the mountain pass between Narvacan and San Quinto.

Gallipagos Islands.

Washington, Dec. 9.—Senator Lodge called at the state department yesterday to talk with Secretary Hay about his Gallipagos island resolution. As to the basis of his resolution of inquiry he said that all the information he had as to the reported attempt of the English government to secure the islands was derived from newspaper sources. The state department itself had no direct information of any recent movement looking to the acquisition of the islands, but with reference to the resolution of inquiry to the United States Minister Sampson at Quito for a response.

It would not be at all surprising, it is said here, if the ultimate result of the broaching of this question were the acquisition of a coaling station on these islands by the United States government. In fact the navy department has within the past year been making a quiet investigation into the facilities there with that object in view.

Cruiser Detroit.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The cruiser Detroit has sailed from Cartagena, near Colon, where she will await orders from the navy department, the revolutionary movement in Colombia being regarded as at an end. The captain of the Detroit reports, however, that the Colombian government is massing troops on the Venezuelan border, and the understanding is that they are about to attack Gen. Castro's forces.

Contests Expected.

Frankfort, Ky., Dec. 9.—All pretense of a fight for the certificate of election as governor has been given up by the Goebel people, and whether a contest will be made in the legislature is really yet to be determined. It will depend very largely upon the wording of the opinion which Commissioners Ellis and Pryor will hand down at 10 o'clock this morning. If it implies that the commissioners believe that fraud was committed, which might invalidate the election, and that they as a canvassing board have the legal right to go behind the certified returns it is almost certain that a contest will be made. Otherwise it is uncertain.

The Democratic candidates for the minor offices on the state ticket, acting on the belief that the commissioners' opinion will contain implications of fraud, have already decided to fight before the state canvassing board for the positions for which they believe themselves entitled. They held several conferences during the day, but it was not definitely determined until 3 o'clock in the afternoon to make the contest.

Commissioners Ellis and Pryor were busy all day writing their opinion, and it was dark before Mr. Ellis, who did most of the writing, had finished his made any denial of the fact that they would decide that Taylor is entitled to the certificate. They would not discuss the matter, but tacitly admitted that it was true.

The politicians of both parties departed from Frankfort in great numbers during the day and the town last night was practically deserted. All the Democratic and Republican attorneys have left for home, the former going yesterday morning and the latter in the afternoon.

Col. Jack Chinn, who has been attached to the Goebel headquarters, left late yesterday afternoon, remarking with a laugh as he passed through the hotel door: "I guess it is all up with us for this time."

There is no indication of any trouble. There has been a great amount of money bet on the election throughout Kentucky as to who would be the next governor of the state, and the bettors are trying to decide whether, if Taylor is declared governor and later ousted by the legislature as not being a legal incumbent, he was, in fact, actually governor at all in the eyes of the law. The Taylor bettors construe men figure it out differently. There has been so much money wagered on the outcome that the thing has really a serious side to it.

The story that Judge Pryor will resign at the conclusion of the board's session is untrue. Both he and Commissioner Ellis have lost all love for the position of election commissioner, and both will retire after a time, but neither will offer his resignation until all contests arising from the late elections have been disposed of.

Steamer Reported Lost.

Port Colborne, Ont., Dec. 9.—It is believed here that the Canadian steamer, Niagara, lumber laden, has foundered on Lake Erie, and that all hands were lost. The crew probably comprised sixteen persons, all told. Of these Capt. Henry McGlory is the only one known here. Tuesday the Niagara was sighted in a gale. Incoming steamers have since reported passing through quantities of wreckage and lumber.

Joseph Huthens beat his wife to death and killed himself at Adel, Ia., the other day.

Capt. J. C. Ayers was accidentally killed at Washington a few days ago.

Killed Himself.

Memphis, Tenn., Dec. 9.—Ernest McLaughy of Pine Bluff, Ark., committed suicide at 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon in a Madison street saloon.

He was in the saloon talking and asked to be shown to the telephone, which is in a small room adjoining the barroom. A few moments after closing the door behind him a shot was heard. The bartender rushed to the telephone box and found McLaughy lying on his back in a pool of blood. He had shot himself just above the right temple.

McLaughy was a stranger in Memphis. No motive for the act is known. Pine Bluff, Ark., Dec. 9.—Ernest McLaughy was bookkeeper for the McLaughy Hardware company. He was a man of splendid habits, very quiet and modest to a degree. So far as known he was not in trouble of any kind, and his friends here know of no reason why he should have ended his life. He was about 30 years of age and single.

Pacific Squadron.

New York, Dec. 9.—The Journal's Washington special says that the cabinet has decided to open negotiations with Ecuador for the purchase of one of the Gallapagos islands for a coaling station, as a check to any foreign acquisition of the islands.

The Journal's Washington special also says Secretary Long creates the Pacific squadron composed of the Iowa, Philadelphia and Maryland.

Wind and Rain.

Galveston, Tex., Dec. 9.—Dr. I. M. Hine, in charge of the local weather bureau, yesterday received the following telegram from Washington: "General and heavy rains will result in marked rise in the upper Sabine, Trinity, Brazos and Colorado river and tributaries. Make modifications and distribution of this forecast directed by your judgment."

In accordance with these directions warnings were sent to all towns situated on the rivers named having telegraphic communications.

Accompanying the rain down the island outside Galveston city limits yesterday evening was a blow, which did some damage to property. Fences were blown down, trees uprooted, one or two stables were wrecked and two or three houses blown off their blocks.

The house of Mr. Bob Collins, a mile from the Denver Resurvey, was blown off its blocks and the stable was wrecked.

Five miles further down the island the residence of Mr. Loze Phelps was blown down. Mr. Phelps' wife was within and was extricated from the debris bruised, but not badly injured.

The stable was blown completely away, leaving the horses standing unscathed where it once had been. Close to Phelps' place the home of Mr. Mansel was also blown off its blocks.

The rainfall for two days at Galveston was 2.35 inches.

Willowdene Shot Out.

Austin, Tex., Dec. 9.—State Health Officer Hunt yesterday addressed the following letter to Messrs. James Sawers & Sons and M. M. Levy & Co., both of Galveston:

"Learning that the ship Willowdene, from Santos, Brazil, loaded with coffee for New Orleans and Galveston, is consigned to you, I deem it proper to inform you that the bubonic plague is officially reported to exist at Santos, and on this account the Willowdene will not be allowed to come to the wharves at Galveston either before or after discharging her cargo. We may not be able to allow her cargo to be brought to Galveston at all, this depending on her history and sanitary condition after laying out her quarantine at New Orleans. I think it proper to give you timely notice so that you may be governed accordingly."

The ship is consigned to Sawers and the cargo to Levy. Dr. Hunt has also notified the Pilot association at Galveston that they must not board any ships coming from places infected with bubonic plague, but must bring them to anchor outside the bar and report them to Dr. Mayfield, quarantine officer at Galveston. The pilots have been given a list of the infected ports and will be advised from time to time of new infections.

Traffic Men Adjourn.

Houston, Tex., Dec. 9.—The traffic men who have been in session here several days, adjourned yesterday afternoon. The result of the meeting is that several of the lines have given notice of an advance on north-bound interstate rates, but south-bound interstate rates will be left undisturbed.

This advance of interstate north-bound rates will apply only to certain commodities and, it is understood, will go into effect about the first of next year.

Willie Stewart was thrown from his horse at Denison recently and seriously injured.

William Butts was arrested at Grand Rapids, Mich., recently, charged with embezzlement.

Samuel Johnson, colored, was hanged at Hagerstown, Md., the other day.

Had a Narrow Escape.

Paris, Tex., Dec. 9.—The residence of W. S. Grist, known as the Webb homestead, on South Webb street, was destroyed by fire at 3 o'clock yesterday morning. The fire is supposed to have communicated from the fireplace through a crack in a stack chimney built in the middle of the house. The family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Grist and their two little children—a boy and a girl—had a narrow escape.

All four of them occupied the same room. The family were awakened by the little girl choking and becoming stifled with smoke. The house was ablaze and flames shot through the doorway. Being unable to escape through this egress, a window was burst open and the family jumped through it to the ground in their night clothes and made their way in their bare feet to the home of Mr. Grist's brother-in-law, M. J. Cobb. Mrs. Grist's robe was ablaze when she reached her brother's. A horse in the lot became frightened at the flames and in attempting to jump the fence became fatally impaled on a picket.

Fireman Killed.

Denison, Tex., Dec. 9.—M. C. Husted received a message yesterday afternoon from Mayflower lodge K. of P., at Taylor, to the effect that Charles A. Johnson, a fireman on the Missouri, Kansas and Texas, was killed there yesterday morning by being run over by a train. No particulars could be obtained here regarding the accident. Deceased formerly resided in Denison and was a member of Mayflower lodge, Knights of Pythias, here.

EVENTS OF EVERYWHERE.

Porto Rico's census will be finished by the 20th inst.

The alcalde of Arecibo, Porto Rico, has been assassinated.

The Mexican treasury is said to be in excellent condition.

The rebellion on the frontier of San Salvador has been suppressed.

John L. Blair, the New Jersey millionaire, is dead at New York.

A tidal wave caused considerable damage on the Chilian coast near Santiago de Chile.

Wages of the 13,000 cotton mill operatives at New Bedford, Mass., have been advanced 10 per cent.

The large Rounbaum building at Meridian, Miss., was destroyed by fire. The damage will reach fully \$250,000.

It is thought the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf railway will be out of the receiver's hands in a few weeks.

Forty-one iron foundries in the Pittsburg district have granted the demand of the iron molders for increased wages.

Representative Grosvenor of Ohio introduced a bill for the erection of a memorial arch on the Chickamauga battlefield.

Ex-Congressman Neill has resigned from the Arkansas railroad commission and Hon. F. M. Hanley of Izard county is his successor.

Hood, while reconnoitering near San Miguel, drove a force of insurgents from Hideson, killing several. Five Americans were slightly wounded.

O. D. Saunders, a school teacher, was called out of his school house at Atkinsville, Ky., and stabbed to death by Will Harlin of Macon county, Tennessee.

The bank of Cornell, Ill., was robbed of \$8000 in currency. The robbers blew a large safe open with dynamite. Two men suspected of the crime have been arrested.

The 6-year-old daughter of A. H. Swander, living near Cushing, Ok., was bitten in the face by a dog. Hydrophobia resulted and the little one died in great agony.

Harper Bros. of New York have transferred the entire publication of their college and high school textbooks to the American Book company of New York and Chicago.

Gen. Andrade, the exiled president of Venezuela, has been in San Juan with his wife during the last three weeks. He says that it is his intention to remain there indefinitely.

The announcement was made by the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad company that the wages of their yard conductors and brakemen had been increased 10 per cent.

R. H. Kelly, who was arrested at Fort Smith, Ark., and brought here by a deputy United States marshal, was taken before Judge Allen in the United States district court where he gave \$10,000 bond.

Leonard Maherry, a single man, who lived about two miles east of Durant, I. T., was found dead in bed. In his pockets was found \$60. His horses were tied up in the barn and were nearly famished.

The public square troubles have been adjusted and Durant, I. T., will henceforth have none. The vacant block is being rapidly covered with houses and the streets graded and peace and harmony generally prevails.

Inquiries made at the Philadelphia office of A. J. Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania railway, elicited a statement denying the report that the Baltimore and Ohio had been absorbed by the Pennsylvania railway.

Orline, I. T., postoffice was robbed.

Owing to ill health, Rev. J. W. Cooke, pastor of the Cumberland Presbyterian church at McKinney, has resigned.

Lieut. Col. Brereton of the twenty-fourth infantry, while temporarily insane, committed suicide at Santa Thomas, near San Fernando, Union province, island of Luzon. Insanity first became apparent at Arlington, November 29. He ranked high as an officer and was quite popular.

The monthly circulation statement of the comptroller of the currency shows at the close of business, Nov. 29, 1899, the total circulation of national bank notes was \$242,769,218, an increase during the month of November of \$175,554 and an increase during the last twelve months of \$1,658,216.

A head-end collision between two freight trains occurred at Annadell, a few miles north of Oakdale Junction, Tenn. Engineer Taylor of Somerset was badly injured. The engineer of the northbound train jumped and suffered a broken arm.

The Indian agent's office at Muscogee will pay out about \$175,000 taking up that amount of Cherokee warrants, on and after Jan. 1, 1900. By putting off the payment until after Jan. 1, there can be a lot of interest added which will take up warrants to that amount.

The cases of Col. J. F. Gaynor and Capt. B. D. Green are to be investigated at Savannah, Ga. They are charged with conspiracy in connection with O. M. Carter, late captain in the army, to defraud the government out of over \$1,500,000.

OUR BUDGET OF FUN.

SOME GOOD JOKES, ORIGINAL AND SELECTED.

A Variety of Jokes, Glibes and Ironies, Original and Selected, from the Tides of Humor—Witty Sayings.

Man Who Told the Truth.
There was a man who said, one day, unto himself: "Hereafter I shall not be base enough to say a single word that is a lie; the truth I'll tell to each and all. To high and low and great and small!"

And so he bravely started out. His heart was strong his spirit bold; Of all the things he talked about. The truth and nothing else was told; He scorned the tricks of speech through which Men make themselves adored and rich.

He told the whole truth, nothing more, And when they bore him home that night, His face was battered up and sore, And he was what is called a sight. He'd lost his job, his friends were few, But he had learned a thing or two. —From the Chicago Times-Herald.

Where She Was Foolish.
"I wish now," shrieked the angry young wife, "I wish now, Frederick Harrison, you had married Edith Macmahon instead of me! That's what I wish!"
"I would have married her," yelled the infuriated husband, "only she wouldn't have me, and you would."



Kind Old Man—Ah, going to school, boys?
Duet—Hub, do we look like we was off to de circus?

Johnnyman Nature.
Chicago News: Mrs. Neighbors—I was very sorry, indeed, to learn of your sad loss, Mr. Hayrix. You have my deepest sympathy.
Mr. Hayrix—Well, I calculate it was purty, cadlike, I had ten uv th' finest hogs in this yer hull township, an' eight uv 'em's deader'n a door nail.
Mrs. Neighbors (horrified)—But I was referring to the loss of your wife.
Mr. Hayrix—Yaaa, misfortune's never dew 'pear to come singly. An' I could 'a' sold them thar hogs for \$20 a head, tew.

How It Happened.
"Shure, Jedge, Ol mates Finnigan on th' strath, an', sez Ol to him, sez Ol, 'Finnigan, does yez moind th' car-ridge fermin' us?'"
"Ol do thot," sez he.
"Tolme was, Finnigan," sez Ol, "whin Ol rode in me own car-ridge," sez Ol.
"Wid yer mither pushin' it," sez Finnigan sarcastic loike. An' wid thot Ol oop an' pushed me flint into his face, plaze th' court." —Baltimore American.

Better Left Unsaid.
After he had kissed her and pressed her rosy cheek against his and patted her soft, round chin, she drew back and asked:
"George, do you shave yourself?"
"Yes," he replied.
"I thought so," she said. "Your face is the roughest I ever—"
Then she stopped, but it was too late, and he went away with a cold, heavy lump in his breast.

Not What She Meant.
Philadelphia Bulletin: "So you have given up your music since you got married, Mrs. Mango?"
"Oh, yes; I seem to have forgotten all I ever knew about harmony."



Prospective Boarder—Do I get all the comforts of home?
Mrs. Hammond—Yes, sir. Home-made food and an experienced physician always on hand.

Hard Work.
"I want somethink ter eat werry badly, sir," whined the grimy tramp to the gentleman.
"I don't know about that," said the gentleman, eyeing the tramp with disgust; "but you want a wash very badly. Why don't you wash yourself?"
"Well," growled the tramp, "if I washes meself, wot'll yer giime? I ain't a-goin' ter work 'ard fer nothin'." —Nugget.

Southern Educational Association.
Meets in Memphis December 27-29, 1899. North Annual Convention. Memphis is a splendid metropolis which, it is said, destiny has carved in the wilderness.

Her unsurpassed educational facilities—her commerce, her industries, her power in the world of business—give her a conspicuous place among the great cities of America.

DeSoto pitched his tent on the Chickasaw Bluffs, and from Jackson Mount first gazed upon the great river which has since been such a factor in commerce and civilization. This was in 1541.

Memphis has won for herself the sobriquet of "Queen of the Valley." Memphis has every geographical advantage. She is at the very head of deep water navigation. She has eleven lines of railroads, twenty-two local river packets. There is a steel bridge over the river at Memphis, which cost \$3,500,000. Has 100 miles of electric street railroad. Her artesian water is of the very best quality and unlimited in quantity. She has 450 manufacturing enterprises. Her volume of business in 1898 reached \$200,000,000. Her city council appropriated \$5,000 to properly care for the visiting educators.

There has been no more favorable outlook for a large attendance of the teachers generally, and certainly not a more inviting opportunity for the teachers of the Gulf states to have not only a profitable but a royal good meeting.

This association is in no sense a rival of the National. Questions of greatest importance to our whole country will be discussed by educators and thinkers of national reputation.

Among the distinguished gentlemen who will address the convention, are Dr. W. T. Harris, United States Commissioner of Education; Dr. Francis W. Parker, President Chicago Normal Institute; Dr. J. H. Raymon, president University of West Virginia; Hon. J. L. M. Curry, general agent for Peabody Fund; Dr. A. S. Downing, president New York training school; Hon. Henry A. Wise, superintendent public instruction, Baltimore; Dr. John L. Buchanan, president University of Arkansas; Dr. James E. Powers, president University of Alabama; Hon. N. C. Daugherty, superintendent schools, Florida; Hon. Alex. Hogg, Texas; Dr. C. W. Dabney, president University of Tennessee; Prof. J. C. Jones, University of Missouri; Dr. E. H. Alderman, president University of North Carolina; Hon. B. F. Johnson, Richmond, Va.; Dr. J. H. Kirkland, president Vanderbilt university; Dr. H. B. Fulton, president university of Mississippi; Hon. Warren Easton, superintendent public schools, New Orleans, La.; Dr. J. H. Phillips, superintendent public schools, Birmingham, Ala.; Prof. E. C. Branson, president State Normal college, Athens, Ga.

The railroads, as usual, have agreed to a one fare round trip ticket. The hotels have also consented to a great reduction in their rates.

For further particulars address any of the following:

Geo. W. Gordon, Chairman Local Executive Board; F. B. Hunter, Chairman Hotels and Accommodations; Wharton S. Jones, Chairman Transportation Committee; H. N. Robertson, Secretary Local Committee, or Alexander Hogg, State Manager, Dallas, Texas.

Track Tanks for Freight Engines.
The use of track tanks by which locomotives of high speed passenger trains may take water without stopping is almost universal on the larger Eastern roads, where fast express are the rule. The H. & O. R. R. has a number between Washington and Philadelphia and intends to equip the entire Main Line in the future. This decision was recently arrived at through the use of passenger locomotives, equipped with water scoops, on fast freight trains. It was found that much time was saved, danger from stopping, being reduced to a minimum and cost of running lessened. The extra stops for water take much time and the wear and tear on equipment is no small matter. If the experiment on this part of the road proves successful, track tanks will be installed on every division between Baltimore and Chicago. As a starter, the 50 new Vulcanian compound engines recently ordered will be fitted with water scoops.

Prosperity and plenty preside contentment and cheerfulness.

The Health and Pleasure Resorts of Texas, Mexico, Arizona and California are quickly and comfortably reached via the Southern Pacific Company's Sunset Route. Daily through service from New Orleans to San Francisco via Houston, San Antonio, El Paso, and Los Angeles. Special semi-weekly service, Sunset Limited from New Orleans Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, composed of Buffet Smoking Car, containing Bath Room and Barber Shop, Drawing Room, compartment Car, regular Pullman Sleepers, and Dining Car (made a la carte), all of the latest design and most luxuriously appointed. Direct connections made at New Orleans from all points North and East. Detailed information cheerfully furnished by W. G. Neimyer, G. W. A. 80, Pac. Co., 228 Clark St., Chicago; W. H. Connor, Com'l Agt., Chamber Commerce Bldg., Cincinnati; O. W. J. Berg, Trav. Pass. Agt., 229 Elliott Square, Buffalo, N. Y.

War brings war, as well as victory's triumphs.

During the years that have elapsed since the Rock Island first completed its line to Texas, this company has constantly been engaged in turning the tide of emigration to the Lone Star State.

That the effort has been successful is proved by the presence of thousands of families scattered throughout our fertile counties and growing cities. Now, for the double purpose of allowing these friends to eat Christmas turkey at the old home and at the same time sound praises of Texas, it has been decided to offer Christmas holiday tickets at one fare for round trip to points in Nebraska, Kansas and Missouri. The selling dates are December 10th and 20th, with thirty days limit for return. Additional details can be procured from any coupon ticket agent or by addressing:

CHAS. D. ELIOT, G. P. A., PORT WORTH, TEX.

Your conscience will usually direct you in the right way.